The Pyongyang Times

No. 22 (606) SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1976 PYONGYANG, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of Government of the Republic of Mali, Pays a State Visit to DPRK

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, was on a state visit to our country from May 14 to 19 at the invitation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Arrival in Pyongyang

His Excellency Moussa Traore together with his wife arrived in Pyongyang by special plane on May 14.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, and his wife were at the airport to warmly welcome His Excellency Moussa Traore and his entourage.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore were accompanied by Filifing Sissoko, Member and Permanent Secretary of the MCNL; Sory Coulibaly, Minister Delegate in Charge of Rural Development of the MCNL; Moussa Leo Keita, Chief of Protocol of the Republic of Mali; Ismaila Kanoute, Technical Councillor of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government; Alidou Toure, General Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Mamadou Sangare, General Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government; and others.

The airport looked like a sea of flowers, crowded with thousands of welcomers holding the flags of the two countries, bunches of flowers and multi-coloured balloons in their hands.

Set up with due respect at the airport were a portrait of the great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung and a portrait of His Excellency Moussa Traore, the respected leader of the Malian people. Seen on either side of the portraits were the slogans "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and "Long live His Excellency Moussa Traore, Head of State!"

Floating high in the sky over the airport were the large balloons ribboned with the streamers with the slogans "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and "Long live His Excellency Moussa Traore, Head of State!" and with the flags of Korea and Mali. Fluttering on the flagpoles were the national flags of the two countries as if to demonstrate the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Malian peoples.

Also seen at the airport astir with the welcoming crowds were the slogans "Warm welcome to the goodwill mission of the Malian people!" "Long live the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Malian peoples!" "Support to the just struggle of the Malian people for independent development of the country!" and "Let us unite with the world's people who advocate independence!"

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, came out to the airport before the arrival of the guests.

Present at the airport were Comrades Pak Sung Chul, Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae, and the ministers of the Administration Council, leading personages of the working people's organizations and Pyongyang city organs of power, generals of the Korean People's Army, leading officials from scientific, educational, cultural, art and press circles and Kim Jung Gol, DPRK Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Mali.

Also on hand were Sinaly Thera, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and a staff member, of the Malian Embassy and foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang.

At noon, the plane carrying the goodwill mission of the Malian people touched down at the Pyongyang Airport seething with the enthusiastic cheers of the crowds.

His Excellency Moussa Traore alighted from the plane, responding to the warm welcome of crowds.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung warmly shook hands with His Excellency Moussa Traore. The great leader exchanged greetings with those who accompanied him.

Lovely children, members of the Juvenile Corps, presented fragrant flowers to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party exchanged greetings with the cadres of our country and the foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang.

A grand welcome ceremony was held at the airport.

The national anthem of the Republic of Mali and the Patriotic Song of our country were played and a 21-gun salute was thundered.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

After the ceremony His Excellency Moussa Traore in company with the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, walking past the crowds of welcomers who were sending up rousing cheers waving the flags of Korea and Mali and bunches of flowers in their hands, responded to their enthusiastic welcome. They boarded a car and headed for the city.

Hundreds of thousands of the working people in Pyongyang warmly welcomed en route the friendship mission of the Malian people.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung firmly shakes hands with His Excellency Moussa Traore

Courtesy Call

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and his wife paid a courtesy call on the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and his wife on the afternoon of May 14.

Present on the occasion were the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

Also present were the cadres of our country and the personages concerned.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a conversation with His Excellency Moussa Traore in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Welcome Banquet and Luncheon

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, gave a grand banquet at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of May 14 in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and his wife on a state visit to our country.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore, and their entourage were invited to the banquet.

Present at the banquet were Comrade Pak Sung Chul and his wife, Comrades Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae, and chairmen of committees and ministers of the Administration Council, leading personages of the working people's organizations and Pyongyang city organs of power, generals of the Korean People's Army and leading officials from scientific, educational, cultural, art and press circles.

Foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang were invited to the banquet.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung made a speech of welcome at the banquet.

Then, His Excellency Moussa Traore made a speech.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife gave a luncheon on the 17th in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The luncheon proceeded in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with the feelings of friendship.

Talks

Talks were held in Pyongyang on May 15 between the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali.

Present at the talks on our side were Comrades Pak Sung Chul, Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae and the personages concerned Chong Song Nam and Chon Myong Su and Kim Jung Gol, DPRK Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Mali.

Present at the talks on the Malian side were Filifing Sissoko, Member and Permanent Secretary of the MCNL; Sory Coulibaly, Minister Delegate in Charge of Rural Development of the MCNL; Sinaly Thera, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Mali to the DPRK; Moussa Leo Keita, Chief of Protocol of the Republic of Mali; Ismaila Kanoute, Technical Councillor of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government; and Alidou Toure, General Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Views were exchanged at the talks on the question of strengthening and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, international problems of common concern and a series of other problems. Complete identity of views was reached on all problems discussed.

Talks between the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, was held in Pyongyang on the 18th.

Views were exchanged at the talks on a number of questions of common concern.

The talks took place in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Return Call

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, together with his wife, paid a return call on the morning of May 15 on His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and his wife, on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were our cadres and personages concerned.

On hand were the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a conversation with His Excellency Moussa Traore in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Art Performances and Mass Gymnastic Display

The revolutionary opera "A True Daughter of the Party" was performed at the February 8 House of Culture on the 15th in welcome of His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife appreciated the opera together with His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore were invited to the opera.

After the performance His Excellency Moussa Traore, in company with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, mounted the stage and presented a basket of flowers to the artistes in congratulation of their successful performance and posed for a photograph with them.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his entourage inspected the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace and enjoyed a number of music and dance pieces presented by the art circle members of the palace on the 16th.

(Continued on Page 2)

Hundreds of thousands of the working people in Pyongyang give enthusiastic welcome to the goodwill mission of the Malian people

The Achievements Made in the Building of a New Society by the Malian People Who Have Time-Honoured History and Cultural Traditions Are a Common Success for the Countries of the New-Emerging Forces

Speech of Comrade KIM IL SUNG

at Welcome Banquet

Your Excellency esteemed Mr. Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore,
Esteemed guests from Mali,
Comrades and friends,

Today we have the great pleasure of cordially receiving Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali and our intimate friend, and Madame Mariam Traore and other Malian guests.

On behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people, I warmly welcome your visit to our country.

The current visit to our country by Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore is a momentous event in the promotion of friendly relations firmly established between our two peoples on the same road of anti-imperialism and independence.

And, Madame Mariam Traore, you have come a long way to pay your second visit to our country. This manifests your particularly deep trust in us and shows more vividly the beautiful feelings of friendship between the two countries.

Asia and Africa share a common destiny and the Korean and Malian peoples formed long ago unbreakable bonds of fraternal friendship through their common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

This friendliness has been consolidated and developed in the course of the practical struggles of the countries of the new-emerging forces to safeguard independence and has now reached an unprecedented height.

The Malian government and people recognized the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the sole legitimate political power of the Korean people and have always rendered active support to our people's cause of national reunification in the international arena.

At the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries and the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly last year, too, Mali gave a great help to our people in winning brilliant victories of historic significance.

For this, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore and to the Malian government and people.

Today the Malian people, under the correct leadership of their outstanding leader His Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore, are waging an energetic struggle to consolidate their political independence and achieve their economic independence on the principle of self-reliance.

The Malian people are creating a new life, full of hope and confidence, valiantly surmounting temporary difficulties in the way of their advance, especially the severe natural calamities which have lasted for several years now.

We warmly congratulate the Malian people, who have time-honoured history and cultural traditions, on their achievements made in the building of a new society; we regard their achievements as a common success for the countries of the new-emerging forces.

The successes made by the Malian people in the creation of a new life and the non-aligned policy consistently maintained by the Malian government contribute to the acceleration of the complete liberation of Africa and the strengthening of the solidarity of the new-emerging forces.

At present the old colonial powers attempt to shore up by all means the white minority racist regimes in southern Africa as the last strongpoint of their colonial domination in Africa, and are trying to alienate the African countries from each other and make them fight among themselves through crafty double-dealing tactics and disruptive activities.

No amount of their desperate efforts, however, can check the process of the great regeneration of Africa, and the day will surely come when the whole continent of Africa will be completely liberated.

Today the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the rest of the world are taking the road of independence. This is the main trend of our times which no force can resist.

In Asia, our people have waged a long vigorous struggle for sovereignty, independence and the building of socialism in frontal confrontation with imperialism, and have always been victorious in this struggle.

In the future, too, we will struggle unyieldingly, in firm unity with all peoples of the world who advocate independence, to accomplish our cause of national reunification and achieve the common goals of peace and democracy, national independence and socialism.

The present situation calls for ever stronger unity of the countries of the new-emerging forces in Asia, Africa and Latin America to cope with the disruptive moves of the imperialists.

The forthcoming Fifth Summit Conference of Non-aligned Countries to be held in August will mark a new milestone in strengthening the unity of the non-aligned countries representing the new-emerging forces.

We consider the current visit of Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore to our country to be of great significance in promoting the solidarity and cooperation between the non-aligned countries, with the Summit Conference of Non-aligned Countries in the offing.

Esteemed guests,

During your stay in our country you will see at first hand the successes achieved by our people in the socialist revolution and construction by applying the Juche idea under the leadership of our Party and the struggle of our people for their country's independent, peaceful reunification.

In this course you will personally witness the warm feelings of friendship cherished by our people.

Sincerely hoping that your visit to our country will bear excellent fruits, I propose a toast:

To the prosperity and development of the Republic of Mali;

To the unbreakable friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and the Malian people;

To the unity of the peoples of the world who advocate independence;

To the health of Your Excellency esteemed Mr. Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore;

To the health of the Malian guests;

To the health of the diplomatic envoys of foreign countries and their wives; and

To the health of all comrades and friends present here.

It Is Entirely Logical That Korea Has Registered Brilliant Successes under the Wise Leadership and Dynamic Impulsion of Comrade President KIM IL SUNG and under the Rays of the Juche Idea

Speech of His Excellency MOUSSA TRAORE

at Welcome Banquet

Most respected and beloved Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung,
Most respected Your Excellency Madame Kim Song Ae,
Excellencies Messieurs heads of diplomatic missions,
Distinguished hosts and brothers-in-arms of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,
Dear comrades and friends,

Spending a day which myself and each member of my delegation will always remember with emotion, I would like, first of all, to express the great pleasure that I feel this evening at your side, Comrade President Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved great leader, and at the side of your valiant comrades-in-arms and the courageous people of Korea.

My pleasure is all the greater because it is my first visit to Korea.

Allow me to express our earnest and sincere gratitude to you and the cadres of your country and population of Pyongyang for this exceptionally warm and friendly welcome to us and your most cordial words given to me and our country just now.

Please believe that we Malians had eagerly waited for this moment of our visit to you.

And I confess, Mr. President, that I was particularly moved by the warm welcome that the Korean people reserved for my wife and the delegation accompanying her in October 1975.

Interpreting this emotional welcome to us as a welcome to the entire Malian people, I convey the salute and thanks of all our people to you.

Comrade President,

The world people know that Korea and Mali are separated by a long distance and, if we are to visit each other, we must make a long voyage even by air.

But it is this very distance that testifies the peculiarity and solidity of the friendship existing between our two peoples.

It is, in fact, thanks to these sentiments of friendship that we could surmount this obstacle and establish the solid bonds of friendship and cooperation between us.

Today Korea and Mali are the two countries very close to each other, the two countries which respect each other and have decided to make every effort possible to establish solid, excellent, firm and fruitful relations full of trust between them.

Comrade President,

Our people well know the indomitable bravery and great self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the Korean people in the whole period of their long history in face of multiple obstacles and in face of vicious enemies they fought.

They highly appreciate the immense sacrifices that you made and the great achievements and victories you have attained. It is, therefore, entirely natural for them to express most profound admiration and highest respect to you.

It is not necessary at all, in my opinion, Comrade President, to say that the government and people of Mali, as sincere and devoted friends of Korea, are firmly standing on the side of you in the just struggle to attain the fundamental objective, that is, the independent and peaceful reunification of great Korea.

The full support and firm solidarity extended by Mali to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea did not start today. This is the duty we will always fulfil.

We know the new vicious efforts which the imperialists direct with blind fever to block the realization of the reunification of your country; we know also the great danger posed by these efforts to your country and your people and to peace not only in your region but in the whole world in general.

But we know, comrades, your determination to frustrate all these attempts, whatever form they may assume.

We are convinced more deeply than ever before that no matter what stratagem imperialism may resort to, what method it may employ and what accomplices and betrayers it may employ, it can never delay or block the reunification of the fatherland of the Korean people any longer.

The example of Viet Nam and Cambodia attests to this.

The reunification of Korea is inevitable; no one can stem or change this current. It will come infallibly one day.

For this reason the Republic of Mali has always supported the just stand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the foreign occupation troops must be withdrawn from the southern half and the Koreans be allowed to decide the means and ways of achieving the peaceful reunification of the country.

Africa, as you know, is engaged in an arduous struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and apartheid that still persist on our continent, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa in particular.

This struggle has today entered a decisive stage and it is required that the assistance of our friends, socialist countries in particular, to us for the liberation of our continent is more strengthened than ever before in largest scope possible.

Comrade President,

We know well of the deep respect and affection the Korean people have for you.

It is entirely logical that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has registered brilliant successes in the arduous struggle for economic and social development under your wise leadership and your dynamic impulsion and under the rays of the Juche idea.

The world people know well of the marvellous successes made by your people in the industrial, agricultural, social, scientific and technological fields.

These successes are a legitimate subject of satisfaction and pride not only for the Korean people themselves but also for all their friends across the world, and consequently for our Malians.

Because we attach great significance to the rich experiences of the Korean people, we think we can learn a lot from our contact with the great Korean people and their valiant cadres.

We think that your experiences serve as a very rich precept for us, from which we can draw a precious lesson for our future combat against under-development. We should, to this effect, make a maximum profit of our sojourn among you, I think.

This shows the importance that we attach to this visit which, I believe, will permit us to learn a lot at your side and make the greatest contribution to strengthening the excellent bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries and two peoples in all domains.

For us Malians, the cooperation between Korea and Mali offers very vast possibilities, the possibilities of which we should all make an exhaustive use.

Permit me, Excellencies, dear comrades and friends, to raise a toast:

To the good health and long life of the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung;

To the health of Madame President Kim Song Ae;

To the successes of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean revolution;

To the prosperity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the happiness of its people;

To the development and consolidation of the bonds of cooperation and friendship between the Korean and Malian peoples;

To the health of Their Excellencies Messieurs heads of diplomatic missions and their wives present here; and

To the health of all the friends present at this banquet.

(Continued from Page 1)

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife, together with His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife, looked around the palace.

After enjoying the accordion music played by the circle members in the accordion room the great leader and His Excellency Moussa Traore highly praised them for the performance and posed for a photograph with them.

After appreciating the performance of art circle members at the theatre of the palace His Excellency Moussa Traore, in company with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, mounted the stage and presented a basket of flowers to them in congratulation of their successful performance and posed for a photograph with them.

Together with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife saw the mass gymnastic display "Under the Banner of Great Juche" performed by the students and children in Pyongyang at the Moranbong Stadium on the 17th.

Invited to see the mass gymnastic display were the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

After the mass gymnastic display was over, the band struck up the welcome music, and all the performers and spectators sent up cheers to warmly welcome the friendship envoy. At the moment the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore raised high their clasped hands expressing the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of the two countries.

Inspection

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife went on the morning of the 16th to historic Mangyongdae where the great sun of our people rose.

The entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore also visited there.

Deeply moved by the shining history of the revolutionary family of the great leader and by his glorious and brilliant revolutionary history, the Malian guests expressed utmost respect for the great leader and his revolutionary family.

With a joy over their visit to the native home in Mangyongdae, the guests posed for a photograph in front of the historic home.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, his wife and their entourage went to the Red Flag Mangyongdae Revolution School.

A ceremony took place at the school in welcome of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

The guests looked around the education facilities of the school with deep interest and saw the students displaying a-match-for-a-hundred marksmanship during their ball firing practice.

A farewell ceremony for the guests took place at the school.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, his wife and their party visited the Exhibition Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Founding of the Workers' Party of Korea on the afternoon of the 15th.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, his wife and their entourage inspected the Pyongyang Metro on the 16th.

The guests expressed their deep impression of our people's creative achievement—the great monumental edifice of the era of the Workers' Party—during their inspection of the metro.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, his wife and their party visited the Kumsong Tractor Plant on the morning of the 17th.

The goodwill mission of the Malian people then went to the Chongsan Cooperative Farm.

The guests attentively saw, first of all, the house where the historic general meeting of Party members in Chongsan-ri was held under the guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung 16 years ago. Then, they were shown around the co-op farm.

After the inspection of the farm, His Excellency Moussa Traore said that his visit to the farm set him to think a great deal about how to organize the agricultural cooperatives in his country.

During inspections the Malian guests were accompanied by Comrades Pak Sung Chul and Ho Dam and personages concerned.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party visited on the morning of the 18th the unit of the Korean People's Army which Comrade Kim Saeng Pil belonged to.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife accompanied His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife during their visit to the KPA's unit.

A welcome ceremony was held at the unit in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

The guests saw soldiers of the unit carrying out a combat drill.

His Excellency Moussa Traore said: I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung for giving me a happy chance to meet the men and officers of the Korean People's Army.

At the unit a farewell ceremony was held.

On the other hand, Madame Mariam Traore visited the Korean Art Gallery on the morning of the 15th.

Ceremony for Awarding Orders

A ceremony was held in Pyongyang on the 18th to award the orders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and his wife attended the ceremony.

On hand were the cadres of our country and personages concerned.

The entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore were present.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung conferred Order of National Flag First Class on His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and Order of National Flag Second Class on Madame Mariam Traore.

Other orders and medals of the DPRK were awarded to the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

A ceremony took place in Pyongyang on the 18th to award the orders of the Republic of Mali to the great leader and his wife.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, his wife and their entourage attended the ceremony.

Present were the cadres of our country and personages concerned.

At the ceremony His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, conferred the "Grand National Cross", the highest decoration of the Republic of Mali, on the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and the "Order of Grand National Officer" on Comrade Kim Song Ae, wife of the great leader.

Other decorations of the Republic of Mali were awarded to the cadres of our country and the personages concerned.

Banquet

In honour of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the DPRK, and his wife a grand banquet was given at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of the 18th by His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the MCNL, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and his wife who were on a state visit to our country.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife were invited to the banquet.

Also invited were Comrade Pak Sung Chul and his wife, Comrades Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae, and chairmen of committees and ministers of the Administration Council, leading personages of the working people's organizations and Pyongyang city organs of power, generals of the Korean People's Army and leading officials from scientific, educational, cultural, art and press circles.

The foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang were invited.

The entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore were present.

At the banquet His Excellency Moussa Traore made a speech.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung spoke next.

Departure from Pyongyang

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife left Pyongyang by special plane on the 19th upon their successful conclusion of the itinerary.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife came out to the airport to warmly send off His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore also left.

Through their state visit to our country His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party further strengthened the relations of friendship between Korea and Mali and powerfully demonstrated the friendship and solidarity among the countries of the new-emerging forces which are striving for independent development. Now, they were to leave for home. The Pyongyang Airport was pervaded with the hearty farewell atmosphere.

The airport was crowded with thousands of the working people holding flags of Korea and Mali, bunches of flowers and multi-coloured balloons in their hands. It looked like a sea of flowers.

Those who came out to the airport to give the Malian guests a send-off were: Comrade Pak Sung Chul and his wife; Comrades Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae; ministers of the Administration Council; leading functionaries of the working people's organizations and Pyongyang city organs of power, generals of the Korean People's Army and leading workers in the domains of science, education, culture, art and the press and Kim Jung Gol, DPRK Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Mali.

Also seen at the airport were Sinaly Thera, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and a staff member, of the Malian Embassy in Pyongyang and other

(Continued on Page 3)

▲ Talks between the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore

Friendly Ties Formed between the Korean and Malian Peoples on the Same Front of Anti-Imperialist Struggle Will Be Everlasting

Grand Pyongyang Mass Meeting Held to Welcome His Excellency MOUSSA TRAORE, MCNL Chairman, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali; the Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG Attends the Meeting

On May 18, a grand Pyongyang mass meeting was held at the Pyongyang Gymnasium to welcome His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government, of the Republic of Mali, who had been on a state visit to our country at the invitation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, and his wife, together with His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife, were present at the meeting.

Attending the meeting together with large numbers of working people in the city were leading personnel of Party and government bodies and working people's organizations, generals of the Korean People's Army, leading officials from scientific, educational, cultural, art and press circles.

Invited to the meeting were diplomatic representatives of foreign countries in Pyongyang.

Placed with due respect on the platform were a portrait of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, and a portrait of His Excellency Moussa Traore, the respected leader of the Malian people.

Seen in the meeting hall were slogans reading "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" "Long live His Excellency Moussa Traore, Head of State!" "Warm welcome to the goodwill mission of the Malian people!" and "Long live the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Korea and Mali!"

At 5 p.m., the band struck up the music of welcome and the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung appeared on the platform together with His Excellency Moussa Traore. Then there arose the stormy cheers of "manse!" (hurrah) and thunderous applause throughout the hall.

The platform was taken also by the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

In the platform party were our leading cadres and personages concerned.

Amid the ever-mounting enthusiastic cheers lovely Juvenile Corps members presented bouquets of fragrant flowers to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore, and all members on the platform.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore raise high their clasped hands in acknowledgement of the enthusiastic cheers of the masses

The meeting began by performing the national anthem of the Republic of Mali and the Patriotic Song of our country.

Kang Hyon Su, Chairman of the Pyongyang City People's Committee, first took the floor to deliver a welcome speech.

He said that the current visit of His Excellency Moussa Traore to our country was an event of epochal significance in consolidating the militant unity of the peoples of Korea and Mali and further developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between them.

This visit, he said, reflected the common aspirations of the peoples of the countries of the new-emerging forces who are opposed to imperialism, colonialism and racism and are advancing along the road of the country's independent development.

He pointed out: today the Malian people under the prudent leadership of His Excellency Colonel Moussa Traore, their outstanding leader, are endeavouring to strengthen national unity, liquidate the consequences of colonial rule and develop the national economy and culture on the principle of self-reliance and under the slogans of "national reconciliation" and "building of an independent national economy". The Korean people, he noted, sincerely rejoice over the successes registered by the Malian people in their efforts to build a new life.

Then he wholeheartedly wished them still greater success in their future struggle for the country's independent development.

He referred to the fact that the Republic of Mali has always rendered positive support to our people's cause of national reunification and expressed deep gratitude for this to His Excellency Moussa Traore, the Government of the Republic of Mali and its people.

Noting that today the Korean people under the well-advised guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung are waging a persistent struggle to build socialism and achieve the country's independent and peaceful reunification, the speaker said:

The United States should disband the "UN Command" and withdraw its troops from south Korea in accordance with the resolution adopted at the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly, and respond to the conclusion of a peace agreement as a substitute for the Armistice Agreement.

The south Korean puppet clique should immediately discontinue the fascist suppression of the south Korean people, desist from a nation-splitting policy and stop war moves committed against the northern half of the Republic under the slogan of the non-existent "threat from the north".

Our people will thoroughly smash the "two-Korea" policy of the domestic and external separatists with the active support and encouragement of the world's progressive people and realize the country's independent and peaceful reunification with full credit.

The speaker continued:

As in the past, our people will, in the future, too, firmly unite with the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America and all the progressive people the world over in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racism and for peace, democracy, national independence and social progress.

The Korean people who set store by the friendship with the Malian people will as always persistently fight in firm unity with the fraternal Malian people in the carrying out of the common cause against imperialism and for independence.

Concluding his speech Chairman Kang Hyon Su presented a silk banner to His Excellency Moussa Traore in the name of the mass meeting.

The silk banner adorned with two flags of Korea and Mali was embroidered with words "Long live the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Malian peoples!"

Then His Excellency Moussa Traore spoke.

Conveying friendly and revolutionary greetings from the entire Malian people he said:

The Malian people are living in a faraway country separated from your country by thousands of kilometres across oceans and continents. But they are very closely linked with you because today the Korean and Malian peoples are struggling, joining hands with each other, for the consolidation of their independence, freedom and justice for all peoples and world peace and security and against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism racism and apartheid.

Our two countries are not alone in this struggle.

In fact, the progressive forces of Africa and Asia, Latin America and Europe have risen under the glorious banner of non-alignment and, pooling strength with the socialist countries, are turning the world balance of forces in their favour day by day.

The imperialists must clearly understand that today the young countries are aware more than ever before that their destiny is closely linked with their unity and solidarity.

The young countries are determined to strengthen their common front of struggle and maintain, keeping themselves awakened, heightened revolutionary vigilance.

His Excellency Moussa Traore continued:

I extend heartfelt thanks to Marshal Kim Il Sung, the most respected and beloved leader and my dearest friend, for giving me an opportunity to speak before you today.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a country which we know well and we respect.

After you liberated yourselves from the nearly 40 year long colonial domination and exploitation of Japan through the 15 year heroic guerrilla struggle, you waged the three year hard-fought war forced upon you by the imperialists.

Everything in your country was destroyed: towns, roads, railways, ports and factories. In the city of Pyongyang, in particular, a veritable rain of bombs, more than one for every square metre, fell.

However, the heroic Korean people with patriotic vigor and indomitable faith completely rebuilt their beloved country with seven years of efforts and sacrifices.

Then he noted:

Under the far-sighted leadership of the most respected and beloved, great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has performed the miracles of effecting spectacular changes thanks to the courage, revolutionary faith and general mobilization of the Korean people guided by the just principles of Juche. Thus the Korean people have enjoyed the admiration and sympathy of the people the world over.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I in the name of the entire people of the Republic of Mali, extend my most heartfelt and warm congratulations and my deep admiration to the entire Korean people—the workers, peasants, soldiers, intellectuals, men and women and children—for the courage, total engagement, devotion and high degree of self-sacrificing spirit which enabled them to surmount all the difficulties and accomplish this tremendous work.

With their shining victory the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proved that a country, no matter how its stature and means may be small, can defeat imperialism, however formidable, if its people unite and mobilize themselves on the revolutionary principle and seize their destiny in their hands.

He went on to say:

During the whole period of our stay in your country we felt the utmost reverence of the Korean people for Marshal Kim Il Sung, the father of the nation.

I say that we Malian people, just like you, cherish the sentiments of affection, greatest respect and gratitude to him.

A few days ago we had the joy of spending emotional hours in the native home of the respected and beloved leader.

The visit we paid with reverence to the true cradleland of the Korean revolution enabled us to measure the whole course covered by the great leader, a distinguished man produced from among the people, who has been devoting his life from his childhood to the cause of his people.

The great leader revived the Korean people to meet all the challenges. I pay tribute to the great cause he has already carried out and is successfully carrying out, because the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a stimulation and example for all the young countries.

The tragic division of Korea is a question of our greatest concern, noted His Excellency Moussa Traore, and continued:

In fact, we are well aware of the unjust and inhumane character of the situation created in Korea today due to the imperialists' interference. Therefore, we cannot overlook it.

The brothers who must be united and live together are now separated from each other.

Under the wise leadership of the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung the people in the liberated north are leading a happy life in a veritable paradise on earth.

But the people in the southern half who are subjected to the exploitation and oppression under the reactionary puppet regime of the Pak Jung Hi clique, are languishing as ever in extreme penury.

This division forced and maintained by the imperialists cannot last any longer.

Great Korea artificially divided today must be reunified at the earliest date. The Korean people in the north and the south must be reunified into one.

The people who are separated from each other in the two parts of the country must rejoin their hands to build together their one country which no one can divide. And this must be done without any outside interference.

As in the past, Mali will continue to support in whatever adversity the just cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The three principles put forward in the July 4, 1972 Joint Statement and the five points advanced by Marshal Kim Il Sung on June 23, 1973 constitute a positive step for the solution of the problem.

This convinces us that Korea's peaceful reunification is fully possible if the imperialists unconditionally withdraw all their occupationist troops and discontinue their grave provocations and all their acts violating peace and security in this part of Asia.

I reaffirm that Mali is standing and will stand forever on your side.

Unshakable are our friendship with and our support to you. We firmly believe that the day will surely come when the entire Korean people will meet again and the children in the southern half will play, flying kites, together with the children in the northern half.

He said that though Korea and Mali are far away from each other with mountains and seas between them, we are the brothers standing together in the struggle. In fact, he continued, we are standing together as comrades-in-arms and will stand together as comrades-in-arms in the future, too.

Then he stated:

I extend congratulations once again to the valiant Korean people on their great successes in the work for the construction of an independent national economy.

I wish the Korean people more brilliant success in the struggle to consolidate their sovereignty and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of their country.

Long life to the respected and beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung!

His Excellency Moussa Traore concluded his speech by loudly shouting "Long live Marshal Kim Il Sung!" in Korean.

His speech received enthusiastic cheers from the attendants.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with His Excellency Moussa Traore when the latter returned to his seat after his speech.

When the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore raised high their clasped hands as an expression of the friendship and solidarity between the two peoples, there arose again the stormy cheers of "manse!" and thunderous applause throughout the hall.

The mass meeting closed with the performance of the Patriotic Song of our country and the national anthem of the Republic of Mali.

The meeting was a demonstration of the daily strengthening and developing friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Korea and Mali who are waging a vigorous struggle to build a new, thriving society under the banner of anti-imperialism and independence and it showed the unshakable resolve of the peoples of the two countries to unite with the new-emerging forces and the revolutionary people of the world in their fight for the realization of the common cause of anti-imperialism and independence.

His Excellency Moussa Traore in company with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung inspects the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace

(Continued from Page 2)

foreign diplomatic envoys.

A grand farewell ceremony was held at the airport in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

Lovely children, members of the Juvenile Corps, presented bunches of fragrant flowers to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party just before their departure.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with His Excellency Moussa Traore and warmly hugged him.

The great leader exchanged farewell greetings with the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his party exchanged farewell greetings with the cadres of our country and the foreign diplomatic envoys in Pyongyang.

His Excellency Moussa Traore expressed deep thanks to the great leader for having shown the exceptional solicitude for his party, before he got into the plane.

At 10 a.m. the plane carrying the guests took off in an atmosphere overflowing with the warm sentiments of friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Malian peoples.

A joint communique between the DPRK and the Republic of Mali was made public in Pyongyang on the 19th.

The agreement on the economic and technical cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and the Republic of Mali was signed in Pyongyang on the 18th.

With Far-reaching Plan for Magnificent Nature-Remaking

On the 30th Anniversary of Commencement of Potong-gang River Improvement Project

May is the rice-transplanting season in the countryside of Korea. Irrigation water is very much required in this season in our countryside where rice cultivation is a main occupation. Unfortunately, a dry season sets in at this time of the year. But our farmers do their farm work freely using water. That is to say, farming is not affected in the least by the adverse influence of nature.

With the sprinkling system introduced in vegetable fields, water spouts from pipes forming rainbows, and the irrigation channels which crisscross vast fields like blood vessels brim over with life-giving water. All paddy fields are astir with rice-transplantation. Rice seedlings are transplanted in no time, turning the fields green, though water occupied them just before, and this promises another bumper harvest.

In the bygone days peasants prayed to the "Heaven" for a drop of rain or used a tiny gourd in watering each rice plant. They had a hard time of it. They did rice-transplanting, utterly exhausted. But now this sad scene of the Korean countryside in May disappeared without a trace and a new world has been created. Whenever they think of today's reality our people retrospect with deep emotion the painstaking efforts of the great leader who did his utmost to see our peasants suffer disasters no more for lack of water.

In May, 30 years ago, the great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung initiated the Potong-gang River improvement project as the first step towards implementing his grand plan for remaking nature in our country.

The Potong-gang River which runs through the western part of Pyongyang City would do great damage to the citizens and farmers in its outskirts before liberation. This river, not so big, did not offer a drop of water to the peasants who eagerly wanted it, because the river water was exhausted during the dry season in spring and it terribly overflowed its banks during the rainy season in summer. In 1942 alone more than 2,000 *chongbo* of arable land and over 1,500 farm households in the vicinity of the river were inundated and demolished by flood. For thousands of years, calamities happened repeatedly and the people bemoaned with increasing rancor.

The sufferings of the people on the riverside made the fatherly leader sick at heart more than anyone else. Soon after liberation he conceived a far-sighted plan to prevent the damage from the Potong-gang River and on May 21, 1946 personally broke ground for the river improvement project, busy as he was directing the work for building of a new country, without pausing to relieve his fatigue after he waged the 15 odd years of bloody anti-Japanese war.

The first shovel the great leader took up on the historic day signified his far-reaching plan to emancipate from the fetters of nature our peasants who had been freed from the colonial and feudalistic oppression and exploitation thanks to the restoration of the fatherland and the enforcement of the historic agrarian reform.

The fatherly leader who did the ground-breaking first to signal the commencement of the project visited the construction site frequently, took part in the undertaking himself and taught the constructors the ways and means of hastening the project and thereby encouraged them in their work. The whole site seethed like a melting pot and astonishing miracles were wrought as they felt immensely happy and honourable, working together with the great leader.

The constructors broke through a hill, built thousands of metres of dikes and changed the course of the river, completing the gigantic nature-remaking project in a matter of 50-odd days.

The great leader converted the Potong-gang River, a river which had caused disasters with a long spell of drought and prevalence of floods, into a river flowing with happiness. Thereafter he advanced the tasks to promptly start the Pyongnam irrigation project.

Nobody dared to intend to undertake such a large-scale nature-remaking project as the Pyongnam irrigation system since the political situation of the country was complex and fund, technique and labour were lacking right after liberation. But the fatherly leader took into full consideration the centuries-old aspiration of the peasantry for irrigation water and employed measures to push ahead with the project without the slightest vacillation, looking forward to the bright future of the people even under the difficult situation.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"Irrigation occupies a very important place in the tecimical revolution in the rural areas. Unlike industry, agriculture is largely dependent on natural and geographical conditions, particularly on climate. It is the duty of the Communists to master and remake nature to lay the solid basis of production unaffected by climate changes or other chance factors, and to provide the people with stable conditions of life."

The great leader who has devoted his all to the revolutionary cause for the freedom and happiness of the people attached great importance to irrigation and gave concrete guidance in all the work for the Pyongnam irrigation project on the spot—from the stage of preparations to that of completion—despite the heavy pressure of his work for state affairs. He himself would ascend and descend steep mountain ridges to designate the place to build a water supply tower; he betook himself to a number of construction sites to indicate the orientations for work and unravel knotty problems.

Thus, while the three-year-long severe Fatherland Liberation War was being fought, the huge Pyongnam irrigation project was pushed forward. This irrigation system capable of feeding water to 100,000 *chongbo* of farmland was brought to completion in only a few years after the war.

The great leader spared nothing in settling the water problem for our farmers.

One day, shortly after the cease-fire, when everything was destroyed by the US imperialist aggressors and our land was virtually reduced to heaps of cinders, the great leader was having a consultative meeting with the workers concerned which took up the problem of irrigation. At the meeting he heard from a functionary that the Ojidon irrigation project had been suspended in view of the situation of the country and the economic effectiveness of the project. The fatherly leader, who was lost in deep thought for a while, earnestly told that a mere economic calculation was impermissible, for the undertaking was aimed to have the age-old desire of the peasants accomplished and that their long-cherished desire for irrigation water should be fully realized in our era. Then he added that the project should be set as one of the undertakings to be carried out first and foremost. Later on, in less than two years, the great leader visited three times the site of the Ojidon irrigation project.

Under the far-sighted plan of the great leader to harness the waters of rivers for agricultural production and by virtue of his wise guidance, the Pyongnam irrigation system and other large-scale irrigation facilities, such as Kiyang, Ojidon, Singye and Amnokgang irrigation setups, came into being in a short period of time.

The great leader ensured that medium- and small-scale irrigation works were carried out everywhere through a mass movement along with huge irrigation projects. Then he went to the places where big and small irrigation works were in progress. Thus he gave on-the-spot guidance constantly.

One winter day, during the period when the war wounds were healed and the people's living became stabilized, the fatherly leader visited an unknown mountain village and showed the ways of turning dry fields into paddies, saying that he could hardly go to sleep when he thought of the co-op farmers who could not yet have rice. At dead of night in a blizzard, he made an on-the-spot survey with a torchlight in his hand to fix the place for a reservoir.

The fatherly leader is unable to take a good rest even for a single day, deeply concerned to bring our people a better life. So the co-op farmers eagerly hoped he would relax himself that winter night when rain and snow were drizzling. But he told them **"If only you can live on rice, I don't mind the snow and rain."** The fatherly leader walked along the rugged slope for a long while to designate the site for the reservoir. He himself drove in a stake and chose the place to install a pumping machine before he departed the farm.

Regarding trouble as pleasure in his work for the welfare of the people, the fatherly leader covered a long distance to give on-the-spot guidance ever since the historic day when he took up the first shovel and broke ground for the Potong-gang River improvement project for overall irrigation. As a result, thousands of reservoirs made their appearance and thousands upon thousands of rl long irrigation canals found their way to different places.

Thanks to the warm loving care of the great leader, a perfect irrigation system was established in the Korean countryside and an abundant crop visits the fields immune from damages by drought and flood.

Li Chan Sun

The riverside of Potong-gang has been turned into a blessed spot for the people under the wise guidance of the great leader
Photo by Chong Ui Ryol

Brilliant Life of Ardent Patriot

On the Occasion of the Centenary of Birth of Li Bo Ik

We are to observe on forthcoming May 31 the centenary of the birth of Li Bo Ik, grandmother of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and an ardent patriot.

It is with deep emotion that our people retrospect over the noble life of Li Bo Ik who fought unyieldingly against the Japanese imperialist aggressors, pinched with abject poverty and suppression.

Constantly Shadowed by Poverty

Li Bo Ik was born on May 31, 1876 in Taeoryu-ri, Chongryong sub-county, Kangdong county, South Pyongan Province. She, together with her husband Kim Bo Hyon, grandfather of the great leader, diligently followed the plough in Mangyongdae. In spite of hard living she administered the household work well.

She worked hard through her whole life, engaging in farming in the daytime and spinning cotton at night, but her family remained as poor as ever, because hers was a sharecropper for the landlord: she was not even free to eat the grain she had grown by the sweat of her brow.

It happened in the summer one year.

She already ran out of food. Unable to stay hunger, she went out to the field and picked some green beans. With them she made porridge and ate it. But the landlord felt sore about this, and deprived her family of its tenant right in autumn that year simply because the beans were taken in before the farm rent was turned in.

Time was really hard. She could barely keep body and soul together, whatever backbreaking work she might do to till the land. She had to go through all sorts of difficulties.

Hence, her hatred for the national and class enemies grew stronger than that of anyone else. So, she put up undaunted fight against them.

Sturdy Character

While keeping her poor family, Li Bo Ik backed up in every way her sons in their revolutionary struggle and fought undauntedly against the enemy Japanese imperialists in defiance of any persecution and suppression.

It was toward the end of 1930's.

The Japanese imperialists who had been dealt one blow after another by the Korean People's Revolutionary Army led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung sent renegades of the revolution to Mangyongdae in a foolish attempt to win her over for their plot to make him "surrender". They approached the grandmother with honeyed words, asking her to bring her grandson out from the mountain.

The grandmother, however, retorted unflinchingly, saying: "A man never dies more than once. Three years ago the newspapers even reported that my grandson was dead. Now you say he is alive. How come? I'll not go even if you offer my grandson a higher post than that of commander of the Kwantung Army. My son Kim Hyong Jik was killed by the Japs. This is enough to put me in bitter grief. I'll not go to bring my grandson out." And she sternly urged them to go away at once.

The vicious enemy tried to achieve their ends by threat, appeasement and deception but failed. So, they forced her to stay in the "Apkang Inn" in Popyong. Now they soothed her and then they took her out to the steep mountains of northeast China through raging snowstorm.

But, with no outrageous acts could the enemy break the strong will of the grandmother.

The grandmother, on her part, behaved with dignity and made the stooges atremble, thundering: "You are traitors who are selling the country and the nation to the enemy, blinded by money. My Song Ju (the great leader's original name—Ed.) is the General fighting for the country at the risk of his life....If you dare to kill me, my Song Ju will not let you go scot-free."

The grandmother thus lived her life sturdily, looking forward to the day of victory when the great leader would return home after restoring the lost country by defeating the enemy Japanese imperialists.

Impressive Reunion

The glorious day came at last.

On October 14, 1945 the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung gave his first greetings to the entire Korean people after his triumphant return and drove home to his native place, Mangyongdae.

All the villagers of Mangyongdae rushed out to welcome the great leader.

"Oh, you're back at last. Am I dreaming or waking?"

The grey-haired grandmother burst into tears, flinging herself into her grandson's arms.

The great leader warmly embraced his grandmother.

This was the most touching scene of reunion.

The grandmother said in a choking voice, remembering even at that happiest moment her eldest son and eldest daughter-in-law who had already passed away:

"When I look at you, I feel my lifelong sorrows all melting away!... But...Why have you come alone? Where have you left your father and mother?...They should have come with you!..."

Hearing these heartrending words, the villagers who sat around wiped their tears silently.

That day at the low straw-thatched house in Mangyongdae the inmost thoughts kept for 20 years poured out of their mouths.

Even after the country's liberation the grandmother continued with her farm work.

Tracts of land were distributed. Many fruit trees grew around the house. She worked hard as ever. At fruit seasons she would send delicious fruits to the students of the Mangyongdae Revolution School.

Li Bo Ik, the grandmother of Korea, is no more with us.

However, the brilliant history of her noble life and struggle will be enshrined in the hearts of our people forever with the time-honoured Mangyongdae.

Li Chang Gyu

Hail Afghanistani People's Independence Day

On May 27, the Afghanistani people mark the memorable 57th anniversary of the country's independence.

On this occasion, the Korean people extend warm greetings to the friendly Afghanistani people.

The independence of Afghanistan was the fruit of the protracted struggle waged by the people of that country to achieve freedom and liberation and it was an event of great significance to the creation of a new life.

Since the independence the Afghanistani people have waged the vigorous struggle to eliminate the consequences of the harsh colonial rule, consolidate national independence and build a new life.

While successfully carrying out socio-economic reforms under the leadership of His Excellency Mohammed Daud, Head of State, the Afghanistani people have achieved great success in the building of the national economy and culture.

The Afghanistani Government and people direct a great deal of attention to rapidly developing agriculture, a key branch in the country's economy. A series of positive measures have been taken to abolish the old relations of landownership; state investments in agricultural development are on the increase; and irrigation projects are being vigorously pushed forward.

In order to develop the national industry state economic sectors have been established. In the meantime, a vigorous survey of the country's natural resources is being made for their effective exploitation and use. Swift development is noted in such industrial branches as oil, gas and mining. The same is true of such traditional industries as textile, woolen and leather.

Success has also been observed in the fields of education, culture and public health.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice over the successes made by the Afghanistani people in the creation of a new society and extend support and solidarity for their struggle for the independent development of the country.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out:

"Independence is prerequisite for national welfare and honour and a nation with an independent spirit alone can achieve genuine independence and prosperity."

In its external activity, the Afghanistani Government follows a non-aligned policy and supports the anti-imperialist, national-liberation struggle of the oppressed people.

The Korean and Afghanistani peoples are linked with the ties of friendship, for the community of the past situation and of today's struggle against imperialism and for the building of a new society.

The people of Afghanistan express sympathy and solidarity for the righteous struggle of our people to attain the country's reunification independently, in a peaceful way and without any interference from outside forces.

It is our firm belief that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Korean and Afghanistani peoples will further develop in conformity with the interests of the peoples of the two countries. We sincerely wish the Afghanistani people greater success in their efforts to build a new, thriving country.

Kim Su Yon

Victorious May Revolution in Sudan: 7th Anniversary

May 25 is the 7th anniversary of the victorious May Revolution in the Sudan.

On this occasion the Korean people extend warm felicitations and militant greetings to the fraternal Sudanese people marking their national holiday.

The victory of May Revolution in 1969 was an event of historic significance to the life of the Sudanese people.

Since the victorious revolution the valorous and industrious Sudanese people under the correct leadership of President Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri, their outstanding leader, have achieved big successes in their struggle to liquidate the aftermaths of colonial rule, achieve national harmony and unity, promote the independent development of the country and build a new society under the uplifted banner of anti-imperialism and independence.

Following the victorious revolution the Sudanese Government frustrated the repeated sabotage and subversive activities of the imperialists and the domestic reactionary forces. A proof of this is provided by the fact that the government smashed counter-revolutionary elements who rose in armed riot in September last year at the instigation of the US imperialists and took a determined step to deport US diplomats from the Sudan.

In a short span of time after the victory of the revolution the Sudanese Government also carried out a series of progressive reforms to destroy the ruling apparatuses of the old society and build a new society. Progress has been made in agriculture and stockbreeding, key branches of the economy, and new industrial branches have been established.

Steady headway is observed in national education and public health.

The victorious revolution provided new opportunities for the Sudanese Government to attain national harmony and unity through the successful solution to the problem of the southern Sudan which remained a big headache historically.

The great revolutionary leader Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out:

"The Korean people sincerely rejoice over the successes the Sudanese people are making in the creation of a new life and express their firm solidarity with them in their just struggle."

We Korean people rejoice as our own over the successes the Sudanese people are gaining in the struggle for independence, self-reliance and self-defence and congratulate them on their successes in these fields.

In its external activity the Sudanese Government opposes imperialism, colonialism and racism and fully supports the liberation struggle of all the oppressed peoples, while giving its resolute support and encouragement to the Palestinian people in the struggle for liberating their fatherland from the US imperialists and Israeli aggressors and to the Arab countries for defending their national independence and attaining their territorial integrity.

Geographically, the Korean people and the Sudanese people are far apart from each other. However, they are comrades-in-arms and brothers standing on the same front against imperialism; and the relations of friendship and cooperation established between the peoples of the two countries are daily developing.

The visit of President Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan to our country in August 1970 was a notable landmark in the further development of the relations of friendship and cooperation of our two countries.

The Sudanese Government and people have actively supported the just struggle of our people for expelling all foreign troops from south Korea and realizing the independent and peaceful reunification of our country and have worked heartily for us in the international forums including the UN General Assembly. This is a great inspiration to our people.

We are convinced that the relations of friendship and cooperation established between Korea and the Sudan will further expand and develop.

Lastly, the Korean people express the best wishes that the Sudanese people will achieve greater success in their struggle to defend the gains of the revolution and attain the prosperity of the country.

Cho Ho Rim

Workers strive to raise their level of technique and skill (at a Sudanese textile mill)

Sri-Lanka People Build a New Life

The fourth anniversary of the Republic of Sri-Lanka falls on May 22.

On this day the Korean people offer warm felicitations to the friendly people of Sri-Lanka.

The proclamation of the Republic of Sri-Lanka marked a starting point for its people who had been subjected to ceaseless interference and sabotage and wrecking activities on the part of the imperialists and had waged a struggle to consolidate national independence.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"The people must fight foreign imperialists to the end, upholding the banner of anti-imperialism and independence, and completely liquidate the leftovers of colonialism in all spheres of politics, economy and culture. Only then is it possible to achieve national independence and build an independent and prosperous, new society."

After the establishment of the republic, the people of that country scored great successes in their struggle to consolidate national independence and build a new society under the correct leadership of Prime Minister Sirima R.D. Bandaranike.

The government has taken a series of progressive measures to eliminate evil consequences of colonial rule and free the country's economy from the control of imperialism and build an independent national economy.

Under the revised land reform law on the nationalization of land formerly owned by foreigners, more than 400 plantations of tea, rubber, coconut and others were placed under the property of the state.

In last January more than ten tea producing and selling corporations under the British company "Colombo Commercial" were also nationalized. The same step was taken for many other foreign monopoly companies. State restrictions are put on those foreign companies which are not nationalized.

Besides, measures have been taken to steadily expand state-run branches in order to destroy the stronghold of domestic private capital and create favourable conditions for economic development of the country. Today more than 100 state-run companies are functioning in that country.

The efforts to develop the national economy have culminated in the creation of metallurgical, textile, tyre and tractor repair and other factories and new industrial branches in Sri-Lanka where there existed only an insignificant processing industry in the past.

Significant headway has been made in agriculture, too.

As a result of the land reform, the system of feudal exploitation is being eliminated in the countryside, with cooperatives emerging.

State investments amounting to 10,000 million rupees go into the irrigation project on the River Mahaweli which will bring over 360,000 hectares of fields under irrigation. State funds are also invested in other branches of agriculture. All this offers a very promising prospect for that country to attain the goal of meeting the demand for food with its own efforts in the near future.

The same success is noted in the fields of education, culture and public health.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice over all the successes achieved by the people of Sri-Lanka in the building of a new life and warmly hail them.

The Government of the Republic of Sri-Lanka pursues a non-aligned, peace-loving foreign policy and actively supports the people throughout the world who oppose imperialism and colonialism and fight for freedom, liberation and national independence.

The friendly relations formed between the peoples of Korea and Sri-Lanka are developing in line with the interests of the people of the two countries and the common cause of the non-aligned countries' movement for anti-imperialism and independence.

The government and people of Sri-Lanka express support for and sympathy with the Korean people in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. This is a source of encouragement to our people who are fighting to reunify the divided country, convinced of the justness of their cause.

The Korean people sincerely hope that the Sri-Lanka people, under the uplifted banner of anti-imperialism and independence, will achieve greater success in their struggle to consolidate national independence, achieve social progress and build a new, prosperous country.

Cho Son Won

A metallurgical plant is under construction in Sri-Lanka

THE PYONGYANG TIMES. Published every Saturday by the Pyongyang Times. PYONGYANG, Democratic People's Republic of KOREA. Any articles in the Pyongyang Times can be reprinted. Price: 10 *chon*, No. 13014-604118